

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-66 (Presently Canceled)

67. (New): An isolated nucleic acid molecule, or its complement, wherein the isolated nucleic acid i) encodes a polypeptide which exhibits lipase activity and ii) is selected from the group consisting of:

a) a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence which is at least 90% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46; and

b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 46.

68. (New): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 67, or its complement, wherein the nucleic acid molecule has a sequence which is at least 90% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.

69. (New): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 68, or its complement, wherein the nucleic acid molecule has a sequence which is at least 95% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.

70. (New): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 67, or its complement, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 46.

71. (New): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 67, or its complement, wherein the molecule is selected from the group consisting of:

a) a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46; and

b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 46.

72. (New): The nucleic acid molecule of claim 67, or its complement, further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

73. (New): The nucleic acid molecule of claim 67, or its complement, further comprising nucleic acid sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

74. (New): A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 67 or its complement.

75. (New): The host cell of claim 74 which is a mammalian host cell.

76. (New): The host cell of claim 74, which is a prokaryotic host cell.

77. (New): A non-human mammalian host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 67 or its complement.

78. (New): A method for producing a polypeptide that exhibits lipase activity, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 74 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

79. (New): The method of claim 78, wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 46.

80. (New): An isolated nucleic acid molecule, or its complement, comprising at least 100 consecutive nucleotide residues of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.